

## Detailed Expository Essay Outline Template

### I. Introduction

#### A. Hook

- Start with a surprising fact, brief anecdote, question, or statistic related to your topic.

*Example placeholder:*

*“Most teenagers check their phones over 100 times a day.”*

#### B. Context / Background (2–3 sentences)

- Introduce the general issue so readers understand why it matters.
- Define any key terms you will use in the essay.

#### C. Thesis Statement (1 sentence)

- Clearly state *what you will explain*—not argue.
- Your thesis should include your **main points in order**.

#### Thesis Formula:

*Topic + angle + 3 main points you will explain.*

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### II. Body Paragraph 1 – Main Point 1

#### A. Topic Sentence

- Introduce your first main point clearly and directly.

#### B. Explanation

- Break down the idea into simple, logical parts.
- Clarify how it relates to the overall topic.

#### C. Evidence (2–3 pieces)

- Include facts, statistics, examples, research findings, definitions, etc.

- Cite the source (according to teacher's required format).

#### **D. Analysis**

- Explain what the evidence shows.
- Connect the evidence back to your topic sentence.

#### **E. Transition sentence**

- Smoothly move readers to the next idea.
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### **III. Body Paragraph 2 – Main Point 2**

#### **A. Topic Sentence**

- Introduce your second point.

#### **B. Explanation**

- Break down the idea clearly.

#### **C. Evidence (2–3 pieces)**

- Facts, examples, data, definitions, expert explanations.

#### **D. Analysis**

- Explain why this information matters.

#### **E. Transition sentence**

- Connect to the next point.
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### **IV. Body Paragraph 3 – Main Point 3**

#### **A. Topic Sentence**

- Introduce the third idea you will explain.

#### **B. Explanation**

### **C. Evidence (2–3 pieces)**

### **D. Analysis**

### **E. Transition sentence**

- Lead into the conclusion.
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## **V. Optional – Additional Body Paragraphs**

Use this section only if your assignment requires four or more body paragraphs.

For each additional paragraph, repeat the same structure:

- Topic sentence
  - Explanation
  - Evidence
  - Analysis
  - Transition
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## **VI. Counterpoint or Alternative Perspective (Optional – advanced essays)**

Some teachers require a brief explanation of an alternative viewpoint to show depth and neutrality.

### **A. Summary of another perspective**

- Explain a common misunderstanding, misconception, or alternate explanation.

### **B. Clarification**

- Briefly explain why your explanation is more accurate or widely supported (still objective and neutral).
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## **VII. Conclusion**

### **A. Restate your thesis in new wording**

- Don't repeat it—rephrase it.

### **B. Summary of Main Points**

- 2–3 brief sentences.

### **C. Final Insight**

- End with one of the following:
    - A broader implication
    - A meaningful conclusion based on the information
    - A prediction
    - A connection to the real world
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## **Bonus: Fill-in-the-Blank Mini Template (For Quick Use)**

### **Intro**

- Hook: \_\_\_\_\_
- Context: \_\_\_\_\_
- Thesis: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Body Paragraph 1**

- Topic Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_
- Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_
- Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Body Paragraph 2**

- Topic Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

- Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_
- Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Body Paragraph 3**

- Topic Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_
- Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_
- Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Conclusion**

- Restated Thesis: \_\_\_\_\_
- Summary: \_\_\_\_\_
- Final Insight: \_\_\_\_\_